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***Georgia Public Service Commission***

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244 WASHINGTON STREET, SW  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334-5701

October 16, 2009

FAX: (404) 656-2341  
www.psc.state.ga.us

**Received & Inspected**

**OCT 21 2009**

**FCC Mail Room**

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
9300 East Hampton Drive  
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

**VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL**

**Re: CC Docket No. 96-45: Universal Service Certification**  
**47 U.S.C. § 254(e); 47 CFR § 54.314**

Dear Secretary Dortch:

Enclosed are an original and four copies of each of the following:

- 1) the Georgia Public Service Commission's ("GPSC") Request for Leave to File an Addendum to its State Certification of Federal Universal Service Support Eligibility Out-of-Time; and
- 2) A letter signed by GPSC Chairman H. Doug Everett, dated October 16, 2009, which memorializes the GPSC's October 6, 2009 approval of certification for four (4) local exchange carriers who will be using support received under section 214(e) consistent with the requirements of section 254 (e) and are therefore eligible to continue to receive support under section 214(e) of the Act. (**Note:** This letter supplements the annual certification in accordance with 47 CFR §54.314 which the GPSC filed with the FCC and USAC in September 2009. Copies of the September 1, 2009 letters to the FCC and USAC are included as Attachments "B" and "C", respectively, to the October 16<sup>th</sup> letter.)

Please call me at (404) 463-6250 if you have any questions or comments regarding this filing.

Sincerely,

Clare McGuire  
Staff Attorney  
(404)463-6250

No. of Copies rec'd. 094  
List ABCDE

Attachments

BEFORE THE  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected  
OCT 21 2009  
FCC Mail Room

In the Matter of: )  
 ) CC Docket No. 96-45  
Federal-State Joint Board on ) 47 USC § 254(e)  
Universal Service ) 47 CFR § 54.314  
 )

THE GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION'S REQUEST FOR LEAVE TO  
FILE AN ADDENDUM TO ITS STATE CERTIFICATION OF FEDERAL  
UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT ELIGIBILITY OUT-OF-TIME

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 1.41, the Georgia Public Service Commission ("GPSC")  
hereby requests leave to file an addendum to its certification of federal universal service  
support for calendar year 2010 out-of-time. As grounds for its request, the GPSC states:

1. Under 47 C.F.R. § 54.314, states are required to certify that rural incumbent local exchange carriers and/or eligible telecommunications carriers serving lines in the service area of a rural incumbent local exchange carrier are eligible to receive federal universal support for the upcoming calendar year.
2. In order for federal universal service support to be received for the entire calendar year 2010, state certification was required to have been made by October 1, 2009. See 47 C.F.R. § 54.314(d)(1).
3. By letter dated September 1, 2009, the GPSC filed its annual certification in accordance with 47 CFR §54.314 with the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"). Copies of the September 1, 2009, annual certification letters to

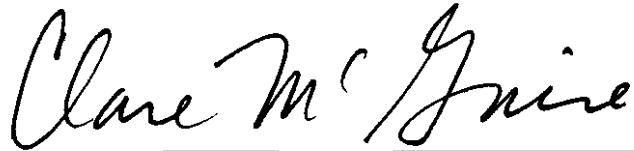
the FCC and USAC are included, respectively, as Attachments “B” and “C” to this Request for Leave to File an Addendum to its State Certification of Federal Universal Service Support Eligibility Out-of-Time (“Request for Leave”).

4. Due to a procedural mix-up, the four (4) carriers listed in Attachment “A” to the October 15, 2009 “Addendum to Annual Certification” letter to the FCC and USAC, signed by GPSC Chairman H. Doug Everett, were not included in the September 2009 annual certification letters filed with the FCC and USAC.
5. In Administrative Session on October 6, 2009, the GPSC approved certification that the aforementioned four (4) Georgia local exchange carriers will be using support received under section 214(e) consistent with the requirements of section 254(e) and are therefore eligible to continue to receive support under section 214(e) of the Act.
6. The GPSC’s failure to meet the October 1, 2009 deadline was inadvertent, and the GPSC has endeavored to file this Request for Leave as close in time to the October 1<sup>st</sup> deadline as possible.

WHEREFORE, the GPSC respectfully requests that the FCC consider its October 15, 2009, certification out-of-time and provide universal service funding for the four (4) carriers listed in Attachment “A” to the October 16, 2009 letter from GPSC Chairman H. Doug Everett, which letter is included as Attachment “A” to this Request for Leave.

Respectfully submitted:

GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clare McGuire". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M".

---

Clare McGuire  
Staff Attorney  
244 Washington Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
(404) 463-6250  
GA State Bar # 493310

**Attachment "A"** to GPSC's Request for  
Leave to File an Addendum to its State  
Certification of Federal Universal Service  
Support Eligibility Out-of-Time

**COMMISSIONERS:**

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October 16, 2009

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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
9300 East Hampton Drive  
Capitol Heights, MD 20743

**VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL**

Ms. Karen Majcher  
Universal Service Administrative Company  
2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200.  
Washington, DC 20036

**Re: Addendum to Annual Certification Filing**  
**CC Docket No. 96-45: Universal Service Certification**  
**47 U.S.C. § 254(e); 47 CFR § 54.314**

Dear Secretary Dortch and Ms. Majcher:

This letter supplements the annual certification in accordance with 47 CFR §54.314 which the Georgia Public Service Commission ("GPSC") filed with the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") in September 2009. Attachment "A" to this letter is a list of the four (4) Georgia Telecommunications Carriers for whom the GPSC approved certification at its October 6, 2009 Administrative Session. Copies of the September 1, 2009, annual certification letters to the FCC and USAC are included as Attachments "B" and "C", respectively.

The GPSC respectfully requests that the FCC and USAC consider this out-of-time filing, given that it is being made as close to the October 1, 2009 deadline as was possible, given a few procedural mix-ups regarding the four carriers' filings with the GPSC.

On May 23, 2001, the (FCC) issued its Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC

Docket No. 96-45, and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256, adopting Rural Task Force's proposed framework for rural high cost reform. In its Order, the FCC concluded that the mandate in section 254(e) that universal service support be used "only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended" applies to all carriers, rural and non-rural, that are designated as eligible to receive support under section 214(e) of the Act. Accordingly, the FCC's Order requires states that wish to receive federal universal service high-cost support for carriers within their boundaries to file a certification with the FCC and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) stating that federal high-cost funds flowing to carriers in that state will be used in a manner consistent with section 254(e). Absent such certification, carriers will not receive such support. The FCC's Order requires that state regulatory authorities file a letter with the FCC and USAC certifying that carriers are in compliance with section 254(e) of the Act by October 1, 2001, and October 1 of each subsequent year.

In Administrative Session on October 6, 2009, the GPSC approved certification that the attached list of four (4) Georgia rural local exchange carriers will be using support received under section 214(e) consistent with the requirements of section 254(e) and are therefore eligible to continue to receive support under section 214(e) of the Act. The Georgia Public Service Commission respectfully submits this certification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Doug Everett", with a stylized flourish at the end.

H. Doug Everett  
Chairman  
Georgia Public Service Commission

Attachments

## ATTACHMENT "A"

Georgia Local Exchange Carriers  
Universal Service Certification  
47 USC 254(e); CFR Section 54.314

1. Alltel Communications, LLC
2. Cox Georgia Telcom, LLC d/b/a Cox Communications
3. Southern Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a SouthernLINC Wireless
4. TracFone Wireless, Inc.\*\*\*

\*\*\*Tracfone Wireless is not seeking high-cost support, only low-income (Lifeline) support. The other carriers (Nos. 1 through 3) are seeking both high-cost and low-income support.

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## Georgia Public Service Commission

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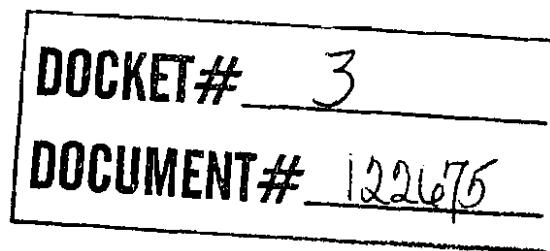
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SEP 04 2009

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
 G.P.S.C.

September 1, 2009

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary  
 Federal Communications Commission  
 Office of Secretary  
 445-12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW-B204  
 Washington, DC 20554



RE: Universal Service Certification  
 47USC 254(e); 47 CFR SECTION 54.314

Dear Madam Secretary:

On May 23, 2001, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued its Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45, and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256, adopting Rural Task Force's proposed framework for rural high cost reform. In its Order, the FCC concluded that the mandate in section 254(e) that universal service support be used "only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended" applies to all carriers, rural and non-rural, that are designated as eligible to receive support under section 214(e) of the Act. Accordingly, the FCC's Order requires states that wish to receive federal universal service high-cost support for rural carriers within their boundaries to file a certification with the FCC and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) stating that federal high-cost funds flowing to rural carriers in that state will be used in a manner consistent with section 254(e). Absent such certification, carriers will not receive such support. The FCC's Order requires that state regulatory authorities file a letter with the FCC and USAC certifying that rural carriers are in compliance with section 254(e) of the Act by October 1, 2001, and October 1 of each subsequent year.

In Administrative Session on September 1, 2009, the Georgia Public Service Commission (PSC) approved certification that the attached list of Georgia rural local exchange carriers will be using support received under section 214(e) consistent with the requirements of section 254(e) and are therefore eligible to continue to receive support under section 214(e) of the Act. The appropriate certification is also being conveyed to the Universal Service Administrative Company.



Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
September 1, 2009  
Page 2

The Georgia Public Service Commission respectfully submits this certification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Doug Everett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "H" and "D".

H. Doug Everett  
Chairman  
Georgia Public Service Commission

/rp  
Attachment

## ATTACHMENT

Georgia Rural Local Exchange Carriers  
Universal Service Certification  
47 USC 254(e); CFR Section 54.314

1. Alma Telephone Company, Inc
2. Blue Ridge Telephone Company
3. Brantley Telephone Company
4. Bulloch County Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
5. Camden Telephone & Telegraph Co., Inc.
6. Chickamauga Telephone Corporation
7. Citizens Telephone Company. Inc.
8. Coastal Utilities, Inc.
9. ComSouth Telecommunications, Inc.
10. Darien Telephone Company, Inc.
11. Ellijay Telephone Company
12. Frontier Communications of Fairmont, LLC
13. Frontier Communications of Georgia, LLC
14. Georgia Windstream, LLC
15. Glenwood Telephone Company
16. GTC, Inc. d/b/a FairPoint Communications
17. Hart Telephone Company
18. Interstate Telephone Company
19. Nelson Ball Ground Telephone Company
20. Pembroke Telephone Company, Inc.
21. Pineland Telephone Cooperative, Inc.
22. Plant Telephone Company
23. Planters Rural Telephone Co-op
24. Progressive Rural Telephone Co-op, Inc.
25. Public Service Telephone Company
26. Quincy Telephone Company
27. Ringgold Telephone Company
28. Trenton Telephone Company
29. Waverly Hall Telephone, LLC.
30. Wilkes Telephone & Electric Company
31. Windstream Accucomm Telecommunications, LLC
32. Windstream Georgia Communications LLC
33. Windstream Georgia, LLC
34. Windstream Georgia Telephone LLC
35. Windstream Standard, LLC

## COMMISSIONERS:

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 CHUCK EATON  
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September 1, 2009

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SEP 04 2009

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
 G.P.S.C.

Ms. Irene Flannery, Vice President  
 Universal Service Administrative Company  
 2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200  
 Washington, DC 20036

ATTENTION: Karen Majcher

RE: Universal Service Certification  
 47USC 254(e); 47 CFR SECTION 54.3

DOCKET# 3  
 DOCUMENT# 122676

Dear Ms. Flannery:

On May 23, 2001, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued its Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45, and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256, adopting Rural Task Force's proposed framework for rural high cost reform. In its Order, the FCC concluded that the mandate in section 254(e) that universal service support be used "only for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended" applies to all carriers, rural and non-rural, that are designated as eligible to receive support under section 214(e) of the Act. Accordingly, the FCC's Order requires states that wish to receive federal universal service high-cost support for rural carriers within their boundaries to file a certification with the FCC and the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) stating that federal high-cost funds flowing to rural carriers in that state will be used in a manner consistent with section 254(e). Absent such certification, carriers will not receive such support. The FCC's Order requires that state regulatory authorities file a letter with the FCC and USAC certifying that rural carriers are in compliance with section 254(e) of the Act by October 1, 2001, and October 1 of each subsequent year.

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Ms. Irene Flannery  
September 1, 2009  
Page 2

The Georgia Public Service Commission respectfully submits this certification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Doug Everett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

H. Doug Everett  
Chairman  
Georgia Public Service Commission

/rp  
Attachment

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Universal Service Certification  
47 USC 254(e); CFR Section 54.314

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